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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION N
10/025,000	12/18/2001	Kevin L. Parsons	86604	8498.
24628	7590	10/04/2004	EXAMINER	
WELSH & KATZ, LTD			FLORES SANCHEZ, OMAR	
120 S RIVERSIDE PLAZA			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
22ND FLOOR			3724	
CHICAGO, IL 60606				

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/025,000	Applicant(s) PARSONS ET AL.	
	Examiner Omar Flores-Sánchez	Art Unit 3724	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-32 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 7 and 12 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6,8-11,13-18,20-23 and 25-32 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 19 and 24 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to applicant's amendment received on 9/7/04. Claim 33 has been renumbered to claim 32.

Specification

2. The amendment filed 2/17/04 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132 because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132 states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: pivot pin connections 17 and 19 (see Fig. 1-3 and 5-7), and first and second legs are pivoted about their respective mountings.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

4. Claims 1-11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The subject matter, which was not described, is the following; "first and

second legs are pivoted about their respective mountings". The original disclosure shows first and second legs are pivoted about the connector 22 and not about their respective mountings.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-6, 8-11, 13-18, 20-23 and 25-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Huang.

Huang discloses (Fig. 1-4) the invention including a cutting device, a plate portion 10 having top side, left and right sides and a slot 15, a transverse slit 12, a cutting blade 21, first and second legs 40, a connector (20, 26 and 30-32) having a pin, a shield portion 11, a cutting chamber 17, first and second legs are in an open position said cutting blade is in a retracted condition (see Fig. 3), first and second legs are moved into a closed position/fully closed position, said first and second legs are pivoted about their respective mountings (Fig. 2-4), said cutting blade move into cutting engagement (see Fig. 4), a centrally located/an outer cutting tip or an outer contact point that is located in axial alignment with said slot, an angled cutting surfaces, a guide (lateral sides of the member 20), first and second legs extension 30 and 31 are movable from a first retracted position (Fig. 4) to a second extended position (Fig. 3), locking means/ a key ring opening/a latch (Fig. 1) and an enclosed end.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 7 and 12 are allowed.
8. Claims 19 and 24 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

9. Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant's argues that the original specification provided evidence that "the legs 12 and 14 are pivotally mounted to the head member 16" and for that reason this language supports the language of pivot connections 17 and 19. However, the original specification does not disclose pivot connections 17 and 19 and clearly stated that "the legs 12 and 14 are pivotally mounted to the head member 16" by the connector 22. Also, Applicant argues that Huang does not disclose "a connector pin, a slot and a connection of a handle with a pin to a cutting blade". However,

Huang teaches a connector 20 including a pin 26 which is received in a slot 15 in a head member and *operatively connecting* the first leg (via member 30-32) and the cutting blade. Also, movement of the Huang's legs cause the pin 26 to move in the elongate slot.


Conclusion

10. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Omar Flores-Sánchez whose telephone number is 703-308-0167. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Allan Shoap can be reached on 703-308-1082. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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September 30, 2004



KENNETH E. PETERSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER